

Rotary
 Rotary Club of Seymour
Connecting with our community

Contact us at PO Box 80 Seymour 3661, online at rotaryseymour.org or call Secretary Bill on 0438 028 868

President: **Ruth Byers** Secretary: **Bill Dwyer** Treasurer: **Peter Holland**

No 38. 20 April 2026

Coming Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, we meet at 6.30pm for 7pm

DATE / VENUE	27 April Royal Hotel	4 May Royal Hotel	11 May Royal Hotel
GUEST SPEAKER/ EVENT	Combined Rotary/RSL Dinner Speakers: Matt and Charlie McLaughlin	Behind the Badge John Stares and Di Frankel	St Mary's and Seymour College Speakers
CHAIRPERSON	Craig Hoath	Russell Chapman	Fiona McCarthy
TOAST	Matt McLaughlin	Bonnie Williams	Jane Challis
CASHIER / RAFFLE	John Keeffe	Ron Halicki	Paulette Andrews
GREETER	Kathy Mills	Dave Palmer	Ian Chadwick

If you cannot carry out your duties, please arrange someone else to do so and advise
President Ruth and Alison Hall.

All Members: Please respond to meeting invitations to allow for easier catering.

SAVE THESE DATES

26 April	District Assembly	Bill Dwyer
3 May	Adopt-a-Road	
17 May	Rotary Market	Mark Dossor

THE SHARE PROJECT – SPEAKER JENNY FOSTER

On the evening of 20th April 2026, 16 members and guests of the Rotary Club of Seymour attended a tour of the Serving Humanity and Repurposing Equipment (SHARE) facility in Broadford.

Our guide and guest speaker was SHARE coordinator and member of the Rotary e-Club of Change Makers, Jenny Foster.

As the SHARE facility has only been operational for the past 18 months, Jenny commenced the tour by offering a brief history of the warehouse which included a vocational training ground for an 18-year-old Greg Byers and its use as a telecom cable factory. It was also a base for a Hot Rod Club, the bar and billiard table taking up space on the shed floor, both serving as reminders of the previous occupants.



As an overview, the SHARE project focuses on collecting and distributing medical, educational, and vocational equipment to those in need whether locally (e.g. Riding Develops Abilities in Seymour), statewide (e.g. assisting with the settlement of refugees in Nhill) or internationally (e.g. loading up containers of equipment to be sent to Papua New Guinea). The project partners with various organisations, including other Rotary Clubs, the Helping Hands Mission and the Caroline Chisholm Society, to gather and disperse donations. It also ensures that these resources are sorted, stored and distributed. The initiative diverts products from landfill thus creating a positive environmental impact.



The warehouse is divided into 2 main areas, one for the sorting of items and the other for storage. Donated items may include clothing, toys, blankets, books, stationery, blood pressure cuffs, wheelchairs and hospital beds, to name a few.

A shipping container loaded with medical equipment is ready to be sent to the eastern highlands of Papua New Guinea with another being organised for Uganda. It is important that donations are within their use by date and are useful, for example hospital beds that have a high level of technology may not suit the conditions of the country for which they are destined. Inappropriate goods are returned to the donor source for disposal.



The SHARE facility is reliant on financial support for its operations, including its fit out and utilities; a silent partner pays for the rent of the site. Large donations have been received from the Rotary Clubs of Yea and Bright which will assist with the shipping of the containers. Jenny also expressed gratitude for the Rotary Club of Seymour's previous donation of \$750 which has been used to purchase safety vests for the volunteers.



Mathew and Jane with some of the donated items



The SHARE warehouse is open to volunteers and donations on Tuesdays between 9am and 1pm. Of interest, a medical representative from Siem Reap, Cambodia, will be in attendance on 5th and 9th May and the loading of shipping containers will take place on 16th May to coincide with Rotary's Epic Day of Service. The SHARE undertaking will become a RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Service) project in the very near future.

DINNER AT THE BROADFORD HOTEL

Following the tour, our party comprising of Jenny Foster, Ruth and Greg Byers, Catriona and Eliot Jarman, Bonnie Williams, Mathew Fowler, Paulette Andrews, John Keeffe, John Stares, John Barton, Mark Dossor, Craig and Rae Hoath, Fiona McCarthy, Jane Challis, Bill Dwyer and Alan Walton dined at the recently reopened Broadford Hotel also known to locals as “the bottom pub”. Formal apologies for the evening had earlier been received from Viv Beaumont, Ian Chadwick, Russell and Leanne Chapman, Gary Doherty, Peter and Ann Holland, Liam Jones, Tony Lee, Samantha Manning, Kathy Mills and Janina Taylor.



Local “Broadfordite”
Mark Dossor welcomed everyone to his home town by thanking all for attending and requesting an evening of relaxation and fellowship.



Relaxing over dinner at The Broadford Hotel – President Ruth, Alan, Bill, Jane and Fiona.

See you next week back at The Royal Hotel in Seymour.